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NOTES ON A STACHYS FROM SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA.—“*Stachys palustris*, L., var. *cordata*, Gray (*S. cordata*, Riddell, 1836. *S. Nuttallii*, Shuttlew., 1848.).—Stem beset with spreading or reflexed bristly hairs; leaves hairy or smoothish, *oblong*, *heart-shaped at the narrowed base*, all more or less petioled; calyx-teeth sometimes shorter.—Common southward and westward.” Gray’s *Man.*, 5th ed. p. 358.

“*Stachys Nuttallii*, Shuttlew.—Perennial, erect, hispid with rigid, spreading or somewhat reflexed hairs; leaves petioled, *oval-elliptic* or *suboblong*, *narrowed toward the base*, cordate, long-pilose on both sides; floral ones bract form, scarcely surpassing the calyxes; teeth of the campanulate, pubescent calyx short, mucronate-acute; tube of the corolla much exserted. From the mountains of Tennessee (Ruegel!) to Ohio (h. Hook.!). *S. sylvatica*, Nutt. Allied to *S. sylvatica*, but the leaves much narrower at base. Calyx in flower scarcely 2 lines; tube of the corolla almost 4 lines long.” DC. *Prod.* 12., p. 468.

Dr. Riddell’s plant I have not seen and have no access to his description.

A *Stachys* collected near Wytheville, S. W. Va., and represented by a goodly number of specimens received from my indefatigable friend, Mr. Howard Shriver, seems to belong to the foregoing variety or species, but does not accord in all respects, as will appear from the following notes:

Leaves ample, *broadly ovate* or somewhat *oblong-ovate*, more or less acuminate, rarely narrowed toward the cordate base, coarsely and unequally crenate, sparsely covered on both sides with bristly hairs, on *long petioles*.

Measurements of the leaves taken from 8 different specimens run thus: *a.* Length of the lamina, including the acumination,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches; breadth at the widest part,  $3\frac{3}{4}$ ; length of the petiole,  $2\frac{1}{4}$ . *b.*  $4\frac{1}{4}$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{4}$ . *c.*  $4$ — $2\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{3}{8}$ . *d.*  $4$ — $2\frac{1}{4}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$ . *e.*  $3\frac{3}{4}$ — $2$ — $1\frac{3}{8}$ . *f.*  $3$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$ — $1\frac{1}{2}$ . *g.*  $2\frac{3}{4}$ — $1\frac{5}{8}$ — $1\frac{5}{8}$ . *h.*  $\frac{3}{8}$ — $1\frac{5}{8}$ — $\frac{5}{8}$ .

In a single specimen only the lamina of the leaf is narrowed toward the base, but even then, the outline is broadly ovate.

Calyx *campanulate*, minutely pubescent, *less than 2 lines long*, with mucronate-acute and short teeth, much shorter than observed in any forms of *S. palustris*, L. or *S. sylvatica*, L., to the latter of which it bears a strong general resemblance; tube of the corolla much exserted, *narrow*, 4 lines or more in length.

The two chief characters given by Koch (*Fl. Germ.* 2, p. 491.), by which *S. palustris* is distinguished from *S. sylvatica*, are 1. “not glandular-pilose above,” and 2. “subterranean stolons clavate-thickened at the tips.” The Wytheville plants lack glandular hairs, but how the underground stolons may be fashioned I do not know, since none were sent.

It is desirable that the botanists of the South and West should look up Dr. Riddell’s *S. cordata*, for it is only by the study of an abundance of material brought together from every quarter that its claim to specific rank can be settled *pro* or *con*. *S. palustris*, L. in the E. United States is an exceedingly variable species. Dr. Gray’s varieties *aspera* and *glabra* present numberless forms and pass into each other by insensible gradations. But from all these Mr. Shriver’s plants differ in their smaller flowers, short calyx-teeth, slender corolla-tubes, larger and broader leaves and long petioles.—PROF. THOS. C. PORTER.

All communications addressed to John M. Coulter, Hanover, Ind.

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